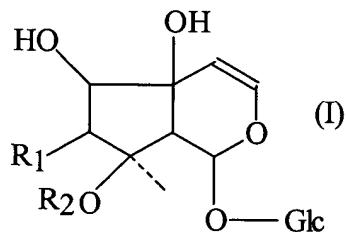


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of treating arthritis, osteoporosis and ruptured disc comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically acceptable amount of the compound of formula (I):

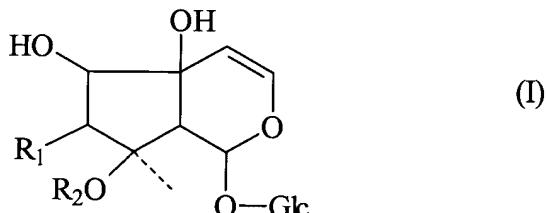


in which

R1 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; and

R2 represents a hydrogen atom; along with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.

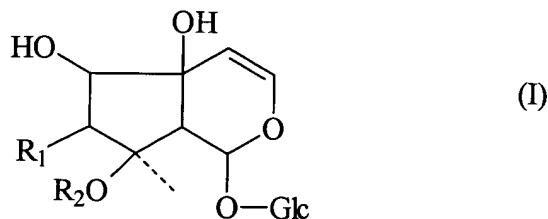
2. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical preparation containing as an effective component a compound represented by the following formula (I):



in which R1 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group and R2 represents a hydrogen atom, wherein the pharmaceutical preparation

has a potent effect against osteoporosis, arthritis and ruptured disc in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliary, diluent, isotonic agent, preservative, lubricant and solubilizing aid, which is formulated in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable preparation and has a potent effect for osteoporosis, arthritis and ruptured disc.

3. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation containing as an effective component a compound represented by the following formula (I):



in which R₁ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group and R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, and one or more materials selected from the group consisting of allendrate, tamoxifen, vitamin D₃, parathyroid hormone (PTH), sulfasalazine, thioredoxin reductase, alendronate, raloxifene, calcitonin, estradiol, genistein, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃, ~~estrogen receptor modulator~~, biphosphonates, shinbarometin and shinbarometin acetate wherein said pharmaceutical preparation has a potent effect against osteoporosis, arthritis and ruptured disc, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable

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~~auxiliary, diluent, isotonic agent, preservative, lubricant and solubilizing aid, which is formulated in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable preparation and has a potent effect for osteoporosis, arthritis and ruptured disc.~~

4. (canceled)